

spruces only, though some were in trees of large growth and seventy feet from the ground, while others were placed low in small bushes.

During the period of incubation the sitting females were observed to be fed by the males, in the same manner that the young are fed by their parents—that is by the disgorging of the contents of the crop into the open mouth of the bird to be fed. When bringing his mate food in this manner the male crossbill would announce his coming by loud pipings, and perching upon a near by tree would continue his excited chirpings some minutes and then fly direct to the nest. Often after having thus fed his mate, he would circle in the air about his home on outstretched flapping wings, giving vent to a perfect ecstasy of song.

The nests of both species are composed chiefly of twigs and beard-moss. Sometimes feathers, strips of decayed wood and bark, grasses and plant down, were added. On the whole the nests are fairly well built and compact, though quite a difference in this respect is noticeable in different cases.

The nesting period of these birds seems very extended. Thus on Jan. 31, nests were found with young. The birds have been nesting ever since, and at this date (May 7) flocks of full fledged young can be seen feeding about the woods, while nests with eggs are still to be found. Some years ago a nest of the American Crossbill was found on August 4 containing newly hatched young.—HAROLD F. TUFTS, *Wolfville, Nova Scotia*.

**Breeding of the Savanna Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*) in Southern New Jersey.—On July 8, 1903, while on a short trip along the coast of southern New Jersey, I was surprised to find a pair of Savanna Sparrows breeding at the extreme lower end of Seven Mile Beach, Cape May County. The nest was situated on the ground in a dry, sandy, open space back of the sand dunes, and was concealed by weeds and drift. It contained three young birds a few days old and one infertile egg. The old birds were seen excellently at close range through a field-glass and thoroughly identified. Being without a gun neither of them was secured, but the nest, egg and one young were taken, the remaining fledglings being left in an improvised nest. The young bird was kept alive for a day or two longer and then preserved in formalin. His plumage is sufficiently developed to show its general coloration, and this, and the form of the feet, together with the nest and egg, aside from the observations made in the field, are sufficient to render the identification certain.

The southernmost limit of the breeding range of the Savanna Sparrow on the Atlantic coast is given by Ridgway (1901) as Connecticut, but there are specimens in the Museum collection taken in summer on Long Island, New York, as follows: Centre Moriches, May 30 (four adults); Good Ground, July 1 (one adult); Gardiner's Island, Aug. 12 (1 young). The species has also been recorded by E. C. Thurber in his List of Birds of Morris Co., N. J., as breeding in the vicinity of Morristown, in northern New Jersey, an inland locality. The present record carries the known breeding range about 120 miles still further south.—W. DEW. MILLER, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.